

DIRECTION

THE FUTURE OF WIND



SBM and Technip Energies are teaming up for an offshore wind joint venture. (Courtesy: SBM Offshore)

Technip, SBM announce Ekwil floating offshore wind venture

Technip Energies and SBM Offshore announce the formal implementation of Ekwil, a 50/50 floating offshore wind joint venture.

Ekwil is a pure player delivery partner offering a diversified range of series production floating offshore wind solutions to meet the growing and demanding needs of energy customers around the world. Ekwil brings together expertise and experience of two energy transition leaders to collectively power progress with semi-submersible INO by Technip Energies and Tension Leg Platform Float4Wind by SBM Offshore. This approach covers a large spectrum of the FOW market, aiming to bring these technologies to commercial deployment.

Headquartered in France, Ekwil relies on a core team of 40 specialists, bringing together knowledge and innovation capacities and will be backed by the resources of SBM Offshore and Technip Energies for project execution.

“By bringing together two world leading players, Ekwil will accelerate the deployment of industrial solutions for the nascent Floating Offshore Wind market,” said Arnaud Pieton, Technip Energies CEO. “This joint-venture with SBM Offshore illustrates the commitment of Technip Energies to provide a diversified and expanding range of low-carbon solutions to support the global net-zero trajectory.”

“It’s just a question of time for market potential in Floating Offshore Wind power to materialize,” said Øivind Tangen, CEO of SBM Offshore. “This collaboration with Technip Energies ensures the availability of optimal solutions with certainty and reliability in delivery. Ekwil leads both partners toward success, pioneering new standards in renewable energy and driving progress towards a net-zero future.”

With 25 years of experience in the offshore industry, Séverine Baudic, former managing director of New Energies & Services at SBM Offshore, is the CEO of Ekwil.

“Today’s launch of Ekwil marks a significant step to power progress in the floating offshore wind market, combining industry-leading expertise and solutions,” Baudic said. “I am proud to have the trust and commitment of SBM Offshore and Technip Energies and look forward to leading our talented teams towards a greener future for all.”

MORE INFO www.sbmoffshore.com

Dominion seeks power agreements in Mid-Atlantic

In a Request for Proposals (RFP), Dominion Energy is seeking power purchase agreements from renewable and other carbon-free energy sources in a region that includes 12 Mid-Atlantic states and the District of Columbia.

DEV will only consider proposals for facilities within PJM territory (Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Maryland Interconnection, LLC), but not including facilities in the state of Virginia.

All electrical output from the facilities will be delivered to the PJM Dominion Transmission Zone. Virginia Electric and Power Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Dominion Energy and is a regulated public utility that generates, transmits, and distrib-

utes electricity for sale in Virginia and portions of northeast North Carolina.

Facilities that achieved a commercial operations date (COD) after October 1, 2021, and facilities under construction that achieve COD prior to the end of calendar year 2035 are eligible.

All participating bidders must register by submitting an Intent to Bid Form and an executed Confidentiality Agreement no later than August 30. The Intent to Bid Form, CA and other additional information on this RFP can also be found on the company’s website. The completed form and signed CA should be emailed to DEVCarbonFreeRFP@dominionenergy.com.

MORE INFO www.dominionenergy.com

NeXtWind quadruples repowering capacity

NeXtWind, provider of climate infrastructure for renewable energy in Germany, achieved milestones ahead of schedule in the first half of 2024. Within 12 months, NeXtWind quadrupled the optimized repowering generation capacity in its portfolio to 1 GW. This leap was made possible by the acquisition of additional wind farms, the optimization of existing wind-farm sites



Dominion Energy is seeking power purchase agreements from sources in a region that includes 12 Mid-Atlantic states and the District of Columbia. (Courtesy: Dominion Energy)



NeXtWind focuses on acquiring existing wind-energy sites with outdated turbines, replacing the turbines with more efficient ones. (Courtesy: NeXtWind)

and the technical advancement of the latest generation of turbines.

NeXtWind focuses on acquiring existing wind-energy sites with outdated turbines, replacing the turbines with more efficient ones, and expanding the sites through cooperation with the local communities to install additional turbines on the site. The company operates 158 wind turbines in 24 wind farms. After optimization, those wind farms will produce four times as much energy, enough to supply more than 600,000 homes with green electricity every year. The current regional focus is on the north and east of Germany, but the aim is for future expansion beyond national borders. The company works closely with local communities and partners to ensure a sustainable and reliable energy supply, through which it is making a significant contribution to the energy transition.

“We originally wanted to reach the magic threshold of 1,000 MW of optimization potential by 2026,” said Prof. Dr. Werner Suess, Co-CEO and Co-Founder of NeXtWind. “The fact that we have now achieved this two years ahead of our goal is very encouraging. NeXtWind is not only a leader in the field of repowering, but also an overall leader in the optimization of the distributed, climate-friendly energy infrastructure in Germany. We will continue to pursue our strategic direc-

tion, consolidate our market position, and grow rapidly.”

“NeXtWind is building the next-generation energy infrastructure to drive the transition to a decarbonized, decentralized, and digitized energy system in the face of unprecedented demand for clean, sustainable energy from energy-hungry applications such as AI, blockchain, and the electrification of the mobility and heating sectors,” said Lars Meyer, co-CEO and co-founder of NeXtWind. “We are just getting started -- our goal is to shape the energy transition in the coming decades,” said Ewald Woste, Executive Chairman and Co-Founder of NeXtWind. “We aim to triple our generation potential to 3,000 megawatts by 2028.” The NeXtWind team has doubled to more than 50 employees, and the Berlin office has been expanded. Further acquisitions are on the agenda for the coming months.

MORE INFO www.nextwind.com

Oceantic cheers Delaware commitment to offshore wind

The Oceantic Network, a leading organization working to advance offshore wind and other ocean renewable industries and supply chains, applauds the Delaware Legislature’s commitment

to the development of offshore wind and advancing to the decarbonization goals outlined in the Climate Change Solutions Act of 2023.

Senate Bill 265, referred to as the Delaware Energy Solutions Act of 2024, allows up to 1,200 MW of offshore wind-energy procurement, encourages regional cooperation, and, most importantly, includes provisions that will allow for streamlined development of onshore transmission, thus building a stronger regional market from which the state will benefit. The bill now heads to Gov. John Carney, who previously pledged his support. “Passage of the Delaware Energy Solutions Act represents a pivotal moment for Delaware and an important milestone for the offshore wind industry up and down the East Coast,” said Sam Salustro, vice president of strategic communications at Oceantic Network.

When signed into law, Delaware will join fellow East Coast states as an active buyer of offshore wind-power generation. Passage will also allow the state to capture more of the economic benefits sparked by offshore wind development, including well-paying jobs associated with the area’s developing offshore wind supply chain. Delaware residents may have already witnessed massive wind-turbine components sailing up the Delaware River, aided by local pilots, for final fabrication in New Jersey. These maritime jobs will only grow as a major wind port finishes construction in the Delaware Bay, and Maryland and New Jersey’s first offshore wind projects begin construction. The University of Delaware has been a leader in offshore wind policy and today provides the industry with well-trained graduates. And Crystal Steel Fabricators, headquartered in Delmar, emerged as an early and important steel provider with components coming out of its Eastern Shore facility in Federalsburg, Maryland.

“Delaware has always been an offshore wind pioneer and critical thought leader in the industry,” Salustro said. “The state now takes its rightful place as an active offshore wind state ready to play an important role supporting de-

velopment of the regional supply chain. Oceanic Network applauds Senator Hansen and Delaware’s stakeholders and advocates for advancing this legislation and encourages Governor Carney to fulfill his commitment to sign the bill. The Network looks forward to continuing to support the state in building a strong supply chain.”

MORE INFO www.oceanic.org

Amsoil acquires Aerospace Lubricants

Amsoil Inc., a leader in synthetic lubricant technology, has acquired Columbus, Ohio-based Aerospace Lubricants. Founded in 1973, Aerospace designs and manufactures a specialized array of greases for industrial manufacturing operations and private-label customers in automotive, industrial, military, aerospace and consumer markets.

Aerospace Lubricants will operate as an independent subsidiary of Amsoil.

“By acquiring Aerospace Lubricants, we are acquiring a strong new partner for grease formulation and production,” said Amsoil Chairman & CEO Alan Amatuzio. “We are going to invest in Aerospace to enhance the capabilities and capacity of the operation. Our operational excellence combined with their grease expertise will result in significant value added for Aerospace and AMSOIL customers.”

Aerospace will continue serving existing and new customers in its target markets and will now be led by Dave Meyer, former Amsoil Sr. VP, Industrial, who will assume the role of Aerospace Lubricants President.

“Aerospace Lubricants will continue operating as Aerospace Lubricants, an independent subsidiary of Amsoil,” Meyer said. “It will not be rebranded as Amsoil, but it will have the backing of the Amsoil team and resources to drive operational improvements that will del-

iver significant benefits for Aerospace customers. I am looking forward to working with the Aerospace team to grow the business together.”

Amsoil and Aerospace are both family-owned companies with long histories engineering innovative lubricant solutions. Both are known for advanced formulations and a focus on developing quality, specialized products that deliver the performance customers have been promised and the satisfaction they deserve.

“This was a strategic choice on my part,” said outgoing Aerospace Lubricants owner Steve Gates. “Aerospace is a family-owned company with a great team and strong values. It was important to me to find new ownership that would uphold our core values and amplify the opportunities for the Aerospace team and our customers. Amsoil is the perfect choice. This is an exciting change for everyone involved.”

MORE INFO www.amsoilindustrial.com

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